

How to Integrate Career Readiness into Curricula with Digital Badging 12.14.2018 | Lynn Chisholm & Peter Thorsett

Question

Q: My understanding of your program for the moment is that it is optional for students, at least in the immediate future. Is it your plan to have this remain as optional participating or is the plan to eventually make participating (i.e certain number of badges completed) a requirement for graduation?

Ans:

Yes it is optional. We think that there is value in keeping in optional and that “requiring” it actually could take some motivation away from the student. When we speak to students about the program we encourage them to use the Badging Program as a “differentiator” to help them to highlight their stand-out strengths, as well as to enable them to show that they’ve focused additional energy around a competency in order to improve their skills.

We would love to see on-ramps into the program expanding, and we hope that it becomes an assignment frequently used within our Gen Ed curriculum to help students to capture and share the competencies gained through their High-Impact Practices. We mentioned that it is a key component to our Engaged Student Employment program for FWS students, and we plan to expand it to all student employees eventually.

Thank you for your thoughtful question!